DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Regarding claim 1,

the allowability, at least in part, resides in a user interface method for facilitating

configuration of a process plant, the method performed by a computer processor

executing a set of instructions stored on a computer-readable medium, fails to teach in

part **wherein the process object having the associated graphical representation of**

the physical entity includes simulation functionality that is based on behavior of

the physical entity; and if a process object in the workspace is selected by a user,

displaying in the third portion indications of parameters of the selected process

object.

Regarding claims 2-11, these claims are allowed for the same reasons applied above

allowed claim 1.

Regarding claim 11, the allowability, at least in part, resides in a system for facilitating

configuration of a process plant, fails to teach in part **a supervisor module**

communicatively coupled to the process graphics editor and the process module

editor, the supervisor module to detect a change made to the graphical

representation of the physical entities in the process plant using the process

graphics editor and to instruct the process module editor to make a

corresponding change, if any, to the process module; wherein each of the

process graphics editor, the process module editor, and the supervisor module

further comprises a set of computer-readable instructions stored on a computer-readable medium.

Regarding claims 12-19, these claims are allowed for the same reasons applied above allowed claim 11.

Regarding claim 20, the allowability, at least in part, resides in a method for facilitating configuration of a process plant, fails to teach in part **determining, using the supervisor module application, a corresponding change, if any, to be made to a process module corresponding to the graphical representation of physical entities in the process plant, the process module comprising one or more interconnected process objects representative of the physical entities in the process plant; and if the corresponding change to be made to the process module is determined, instructing, using the supervisor module application, a process module editor communicatively coupled to the supervisor module application to modify the process module according to the determined change to be made to the process module; wherein each of the supervisor module application, the graphics editor, and the process module editor further comprises a set of computer-readable instructions stored on a computer-readable medium.**

Regarding claims 21-26, these claims are allowed for the same reasons applied above allowed claim 20.

Claims 1-26 are allowed over the prior arts of record.

Conclusion

1.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Douglas Lee, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3745. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00AM- 4:30PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Albert Decady*, can be reached on *(571) 272-3997 or via e-mail addressed to [leo.picard@uspto.gov]*. The fax number for this Group is (571) 273-8300. Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [**doug.lee@uspto.gov**].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

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/D. S. L.

/Examiner, Art Unit 2121

/Albert DeCady/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2121